



LGBTQIA+ Rainbow Commission Minutes

Date: Thursday, February 18, 2021

Time: 6:30 PM -8:30 PM

Location: Conducted by Remote Participation

Notice to the Public on meeting privacy In the interests of preventing abuse of videoconferencing technology (i.e. Zoom Bombing) all participants, including members of the public, wishing to engage via the Zoom App must register for each meeting and will notice multi-step authentication protocols. Please allow additional time to join the meeting. Further, members of the public who wish to participate without providing their name may still do so by registering to receive the meeting info and using the telephone dial-in information provided.

Please read Governor Baker's Executive Order Suspending Certain Provision of Open Meeting Law for more information regarding virtual public hearings and meetings: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/open-meeting-law-order-march-12-2020/download>

Attendees: Andy Robinson (Chair), Keith March Mistler, Lisa Krinsky (Vice Chair), Susan Ryan-Vollmar, Helene Newberg

Liaisons: Jillian Harvey, Director of Diversity Equity, and Inclusion; Christina Coleman, DEI Admin; Len Diggins, Select Board; Marci Shapiro-Ide, Council on Aging; Rob Lorino, Robbins & Fox Library

Guests: Molly Gillis

Absent: Julia Forsythe, Brooks Harrelson

Minutes

Meeting called to order at 6:30pm. HN assigned as minute-taker.

1. Remote participation statement and guidelines read by AR.
2. Welcome and introductions (include your pronouns if you want to)
3. Consent Agenda
 - a. KMM moved to approve consent agenda, with the addition of incoming communication about Boston Pride to be discussed at March meeting; SRV seconds, unanimous vote to accept consent agenda.
4. Community Updates & Upcoming Events – Possible Youth Banner Event (10 min)
 - a. Zoom/Kahoot Virtual Trivia Night on Friday, February 12th, 2021 was a success.

- b. When new commissioners are appointed, we will reopen the Community Engagement Working Group and start planning.
 - c. AR discussed the possibility of a youth banner design event modeled on a similar recent town event.
- 5. Liaison Updates
 - a. Select Board: will hear Warrant articles for Town Meeting in March. As sponsor of an article, ARC welcome to present about the article at the appropriate Select Board meeting.
 - b. Council on Aging: planning Sage Table event for April or May, with warmer weather maybe allowing for an in-person component. Weekly 2:00 pm zoom meetups are a success, all are welcome to attend.
 - c. Libraries: March QBG discusses Jeanette Winterson's "Oranges are not the Only Fruit"; March social events include Queer People of Color/ Arlington Reads Together on March 11th (preregistration required)
 - d. Town: JH discussed Arlington Reads Together: "Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria" events with Library and Arlington Culture and Arts Commission; also look for trainings from Town Counsel/Assistant Town Counsel re: Leadership for Town Boards/Commissions and mandatory Ethics training. HN will work with JH to review Fair Housing Action Plans over the next couple of months; with a couple a dozen towns adding some version of Diversity and Inclusion staff, JH is in the process of developing a statewide coalition of such staff.
- 6. Working Group Updates
 - a. Public Education: KMM and MG to present at School Committee meeting 2/24; Brackett will be hosting a town-wide PFLAG event; Thompson and Dallin parent groups are reading and discussing works on race; Bishop launched a Rainbow Alliance; Peirce will have a Safe School follow-up in May
 - b. Town Systems & Policies: Working Group should meet in March; JH knows of community members also interested in volunteering with this working group
 - c. Commission membership: Interviews imminent for new Commissioners
- 7. Branding Discussion
 - a. KMM streamlined ARC's original logo
 - b. We are on track to have the Town post Pride Banners in June 2021
 - c. If we want new logo on banners could order stickers instead of new banners
 - d. Discussed a blog post legend to explain the various and especially less commonly seen color combinations represented in the logo
- 8. Public Engagement and Open Commentary
 - a. None
- 9. Budget Update
 - a. JH gave a brief Budget update; confirmed intent to donate \$100 to AHS GSA T-shirt project fundraiser

8:10 pm: KMM moved to adjourn meeting, SRV seconds, meeting adjourned.

Next meeting: March 18th, 2021, 6:30 pm, Remote Participation

Anyone needing accessibility information or other assistance in order to attend this meeting should contact Jillian Harvey, jharvey@town.arlington.ma.us. This meeting is open to all interested individuals.